



VIOLENT CRIME
+\$13.5 million in Enhancements
\$200 million in Directed State and Local Resources

Overview

Due in large part to the hard work of law enforcement, the Nation's crime rates remain near historic lows. Where small increases in crime are being experienced in some regions and communities, the Department is responding appropriately, working with our State and local partners to identify the problem and develop meaningful strategies to reduce and deter that crime. One such strategy is the Project Safe Neighborhoods (PSN) initiative, implemented in 2001 to eradicate firearms-related crime in our communities by bringing together federal, State, and local agencies.

Since the inception of PSN, more than \$1 billion in federal resources have been dedicated to providing increased federal prosecutors in U.S. Attorneys Offices and agents and training within the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF). For 2008, the budget requests more than \$400 million for PSN, including resources directed to State and local law enforcement.

The Administration is also applying the PSN model of collaboration to fight the pervasive threat of gang violence. The Department has developed a comprehensive strategy to combat gang violence that is affecting communities across the Nation. This budget requests resources to establish the National Gang Targeting, Enforcement and Coordination Center (GangTECC), which will share information and coordinate anti-gang efforts among federal law enforcement agencies.

In addition to forging effective partnerships with State and local law enforcement, the Office of Justice Programs provides grant funding that focuses on gun crime deterrence, firearms safety, criminal records improvements, and strategic planning. These grants strengthen the capacity of the communities to deter violent crime and protect their neighborhoods.

The FY 2008 President's Budget includes \$13.6 million in violent crime-related enhancements and \$200 million in State and local directed resources. The following information summarizes key enhancements and directed State and local resources. More detailed information is available in the President's budget and the individual agency budget submissions. The number of current services positions reflects estimates that may change once final staffing decisions have been determined.

Enhancements

Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms & Explosives (ATF)

The ATF's FY 2008 budget request is \$1.014 billion, 5,032 positions (2,468 agents) and 4,988 FTE. This represents a 27 percent increase over the FY 2003 enacted level of \$801 million. The ATF's budget also includes \$19 million in enhancements, including \$9 million for Violent Crime programs such as:

- **Firearms Trafficking Teams: \$6.3 million and 34 positions (34 agents)** to expand its domestic firearms trafficking enforcement efforts nationwide. With this enhancement, ATF will establish additional firearms trafficking investigative teams that will be devoted to pursuing investigative leads along the Southwest Border and in areas of the country with the highest levels of illegal firearms trafficking. Funding will also enhance intelligence support via ATF's National Tracing Center and Violent Crimes Analysis Branch and will provide for advanced training for the firearms trafficking teams in complex investigations, advanced interviewing techniques, and firearms interstate nexus identification. FY 2008 current services resources for this activity are \$331,174,000 and 2,066 positions (1,525 agents); total FY 2008 resources are \$337,474,000 and 2,100 positions (1,559 agents).
- **PSN/Firearms Violence Reduction Initiative: \$2.2 million and 12 positions (12 agents)** to support PSN through increased gang and firearms enforcement efforts, technological support, and additional training for assistant U.S. attorneys, district attorneys, and State and local enforcement partners. The personnel will be applied to ATF offices in regions that have experienced an increase in firearms violence. The necessary technological support will enhance investigation, translation and inter-agency communication capabilities. The additional training will focus on team building, investigating and prosecuting firearms traffickers, identifying specific community issues and how to address them, and improving knowledge of applicable laws and resources available to ATF's partners. FY 2008 current services resources for this activity are \$154,262,000 and 696 positions (382 agents); total FY 2008 resources are \$156,502,000 and 708 positions (394 agents).

GangTECC

- **GangTECC: \$694,000 and 4 positions (3 agents and 1 attorney)** to be dedicated to the National Gang Targeting, Enforcement, and Coordination Center (GangTECC). Of the new resources, ATF will contribute \$373,000 and 2 positions (2 agents); CRM will provide \$117,000 and 1 position (1 attorney); and DEA will dedicate \$204,000 and 1 position (1 agent). GangTECC represents a unified federal effort to disrupt and dismantle the most violent gangs in the United States. GangTECC assists in initiating and coordinating gang-related investigations and prosecutions, developing a refined understanding of the national gang problem, proposing appropriate countermeasure strategies, and

supporting the National Gang Intelligence Center. There are no current services resources for GangTECC.

Criminal Division

- **Reducing Violent Crime and Organized Crime: \$115,000 and 1 position (1 attorney).** These additional resources will enhance the Division's Gang Squad, a specialty group of prosecutors with expertise in gang prosecutions and investigations. These efforts support the Administration's Project Safe Neighborhoods initiative. Total FY 2008 current services for the Gang Squad are \$1,551,000 and 8 positions (7 attorneys). FY 2008 total resources for this initiative are \$1,783,000 and 10 positions (9 attorneys).

United States Attorneys

- **Gang Prosecution Initiative: \$4.1 million and 38 positions (30 attorneys)** to support the Attorney General's efforts to combat gang violence and reduce crime by providing additional prosecutorial resources to address the growing gang problem throughout our country. FY 2008 current services resources are \$23.8 million and 153 positions (125 attorneys); total FY 2008 resources \$27.9 million and 191 positions (155 attorneys).

US National Central Bureau (USNCB)

- **MS-13/Transnational Violent Gangs Program: \$69,000 and 1 position** to support the increase in the USNCB requests involving violent criminal gangs, such as the notorious Mara Salvatrucha gang, commonly referred to as MS-13. The USNCB will apply International Police Organization (INTERPOL) tools, such as the INTERPOL international notification system that identifies criminals abroad and supports extradition. The system also allows access to restricted gang data from key partner countries to stop gang related crimes before they occur and to prevent known gang members from entering or remaining in the United States.

Directed State and Local Resources

(These programs also referenced in the State and Local Fact Sheet)

Office of Justice Programs

- **Violent Crime Reduction Partnership Initiative: \$200 million.** This enhancement will support multi-jurisdictional task forces to help communities that have experienced an increase in violent crime by establishing partnerships with U.S. Attorneys and federal law enforcement agencies or federal law enforcement task forces in order to obtain maximum leverage of federal resources over local crime problems. This enhancement will disrupt criminal gang, firearm and drug activities, particularly those with a multi-jurisdictional dimension. The

Department will target this funding to respond to the local up-ticks in crime it detects through its ongoing research project. States, communities and tribes will be eligible to compete for assistance under this program. There was no funding for this program in FY 2007.

**VIOLENT CRIME
Enhancements and Directed State and Local Resources Summary**

Bureau/Initiative	Positions	(\$000's)
Enhancements		
BUREAU OF ALCOHOL, TOBACCO, FIREARMS AND EXPLOSIVES		
Firearms Trafficking Teams	34	\$6,344
PSN/Firearms Violence Reduction Initiative	12	2,240
GangTECC	2	373
Subtotal, ATF	48	8,957
CRIMINAL DIVISION		
Reducing Violent and Organized Crime	1	115
GangTECC	1	117
Subtotal, Criminal Division	2	232
DRUG ENFORCEMENT ADMINISTRATION		
GangTECC	1	204
Subtotal, DEA	1	204
U.S. NATIONAL CENTRAL BUREAU		
MS-13/Transnational Violent Gangs Program	1	69
Subtotal, USNCB	1	69
U.S. ATTORNEYS		
Gang Prosecution Initiative	38	4,100
Subtotal, USAs	38	4,100
Total Enhancements	90	\$13,562
Directed State and Local Resources		
OFFICE OF JUSTICE PROGRAMS		
Violent Crime Reduction Partnership Initiative	0	200,000
Subtotal, OJP	0	200,000
Total Directed State and Local Resources		\$200,000
Grand Total Enhancements/Directed State and Local Resources	90	\$213,562